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ACTION	DIRECT REPLY	PREPARE REPLY	
APPROVAL	DISPATCH	RECOMMENDATION	
COMMENT	FILE	RETURN	
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Remarks:			
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FROM NAME, ADDRESS AND PHONE NO.			DATE
Chief, FBID			19 Oct
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FORM NO. 1 APR 55 237
 Replaces Form 30-4 which may be used.

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PERSONAL

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THE BRITISH BROADCASTING CORPORATION

Head Office : Broadcasting House, London, W.1

Caversham Park, Reading, Berks.

TELEPHONE : READING 72742

TELEGRAMS AND CABLES : BROADCASTS, TELEX, LONDON

Reference : 07/MS/JTC

30th September 1960

Dear Roger,

I understand that you wish from me a statement on the result of our examination of your requirements in the field of Moscow broadcasts in foreign languages tabled at the last Co-ordination Meeting here and I am taking the opportunity of John Sheringham's visit to you to let you have this letter.

STAT

As I think you know detailed discussions have been taking place here with [] on this problem. I had anticipated that at our next Meeting you and I would be able to examine it further. However, I am very ready to let you have a reply now.

You will remember that in 1955, budget restrictions made it necessary to cut back on our coverage. Since then no additional funds have been made available to us except for certain specific projects such as African monitoring and an increase in Russian regional and Arabic monitoring.

ILLEGIB

If one examines the position in relation to broadcasts from Moscow in foreign languages in which we are concerned the following facts become clear. After the cuts in our coverage in 1955 we monitored some 340 hours of transmission time per week. As of today we cover around 430 hours per week - an increase of some 26% which I hope you will agree is a significant effort. On the other hand, Moscow has increased its output in the same field by some 40% and this is where the problem lies. Our efforts to follow the increase in Moscow broadcasts to abroad have stretched us to the limit and without additional resources for this purpose, of which I can see little immediate prospect, we simply cannot go further. Indeed, if more funds were available I think it is at least questionable whether they could not better be employed in other directions. While I understand the reasons underlying your requirements, I would urge you seriously to consider whether the time has not come at which the law of diminishing returns in relation to the coverage of Moscow's transmissions for abroad is beginning to apply and whether equally valuable results could not be obtained by a more selective approach to this coverage. As I have said to you in the past, I am ever ready to consider any suggestions from you as to adjustments in our language coverage of Moscow which might make our existing efforts more closely meet your requirements, but I am becoming concerned at the loss of flexibility in our efforts which these requirements are tending to impose.

ILLEGIB

ILLEGIB

ILLEGIB

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P.T.O.

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Sheringham can fully represent to you our views about all this, and I hope you will feel able to discuss the problem with him. In any event, I shall be very glad to have your views in due course.

ILLEGIB

I have thought it well to write to you very frankly about this because our co-operative effort must be based on full and complete understanding between us. I am most concerned that there should not be any feeling that we are not doing all we can to give you what you want, but as funds are not unlimited for either of us, together we must make a balanced judgment as to how best to apply our joint resources over the whole field of monitoring. I am sure that fundamentally our interests should not differ materially. We are both faced with the same problems and I am confident that jointly we can solve them.

It was very nice to see Joe Laroque once more yesterday and he will give you various messages from me.

With kind regards,

Yours sincerely,



J.T. Campbell
Head of Monitoring Service

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Chief, F.B.I.S.,
2430 E. Street, N.W.,
Washington, 25, D.C.

DM